

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-10 DODE-00

RSR-01 EB-11 OMB-01 COME-00 STR-08 /156 W

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R 301015 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5502

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 1985

FOR USDEL MPT HELSINKI AND USDEL MBFR VIENNA

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR IT OR

SUBJ: CEAUSESCU VISIT TO ITALY, SAN MARINO AND THE VATICAN

REF: ROME 4413, 4486 (NOTAL)

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1. SUMMARY: CEAUSESCU' S MAY 21-26 VISIT TO ITALY AND SAN MARINO, TOGETHER WITH CALL ON POPE PAUL, RECEIVED USUAL, HIGHLY EXTENSIVE LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE, REINFORCING GENERAL IMPRESSION HERE THAT CEAUSESCU HAD BEEN WARMLY RECEIVED BY A FRATERNAL PEOPLE AND THAT VISIT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL FROM BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POINTS OF VIEW. IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED THAT BOTH PARTIES WOULD PLAY HEAVILY ON SENTIMENT AND EMPHASIZE (IN WORDS OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE) " TIES THROUGH THE CENTURIES BASED ON LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL AFFINITIES." JOINT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES PROVIDED MOST FORTHCOMING GOR POSITION TO DATE ON HUMAN AND CULTURAL CONTACTS, AND COMMUNIQUE IMPLICITLY AFFIRMS GOR ACCEPTANCE OF NATO VIEW THAT ITALY IS EXCLUDED AS A POTENTIAL DIRECT PARTICIPANT IN MBFR. END SUMMARY.

2. JOINT SOLEMN DECLARATION IS AMONG THE MOST DETAILED AND COMPREHENSIVE OF SUCH DECLARATIONS SIGNED TO DATE, AND ON HUMAN AND CULTURAL CONTACTS GOES MUCH FURTHER THAN ANY OTHER ROMANIAN DOCUMENT IN SPECIFICALLY APPROVING " ALL KINDS OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE/ (BY IMPLICATION, NOT ONLY GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED EXCHANGES) AS WELL AS " CONTACTS BETWEEN CITIZENS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES."

3. COMMUNIQUE' S REFERENCES TO MBFR ARE INTERESTING IN ASSOCIATING ROMANIA (IN APPARENT CONTRAST TO STILL PREVAILING SOVIET AND WP VIEW) WITH NATO POSITION THAT ITALY (AS WELL AS ROMANIA) IS NOT IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND THEREFORE NOT A POTENTIAL PARTY TO A MBFR AGREEMENT (REGARDLESS OF EVENTUAL STATUS OF HUNGARY). THUS, COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT " BOTH PARTIES, WHICH DO NOT BELONG DIRECTLY TO THE GEOGRAPHIC ZONE TO WHICH THE NEGOTIATIONS REFER, NONETHELESS AFFIRM THEIR DECISION TO CONTRIBUTE, IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE OTHER PARTICIPATING DELEGATIONS, TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS IN THE AUSTRIAN CAPITAL." ALTHOUGH GOR SIDE COULD BE EXPECTED TO PRESS VIEW THAT MBFR SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE EXPANDED TO OTHER AREAS (BALKANS), COMMUNIQUE AVOIDS SUBJECT, PROBABLY REFLECTING LACK OF ITALIAN AGREEMENT ON EXTENSION OF MBFR BEYOND IMMEDIATE CENTRAL- EUROPE SCOPE.

4. CEAUSESCU' S MAY 16 CALL ON POPE PAUL WAS OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE FOR ROMANIA' S ROMAN- CATHOLIC MINORITY (MAINLY OF HUNGARIAN ETHNIC ORIGIN) IN CONFIRMING CEAUSESCU' S POLICY OF RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE. THUS, PRESS STATED THAT POPE ASKED ABOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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" DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF CHURCHES IN ROMANIA, AND IN PARTICULAR, ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH." MEDIA, WHICH PUBLICIZED VISIT WITH TV COVERAGE AND PUBLICATION OF PHOTOS, ALSO EMPHASIZED PAPAL EFFORTS FOR PEACE AND CONTRIBUTION TO CSCE.

5. COMMUNIQUE' S ENUMERATION OF THE SEVERAL ECONOMIC AGREE-

MENTS SIGNED DURING OR PRELIMINARY TO VISIT (INCLUDING LONG- TERM
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT) CONVEYS IMPRESSION OF SUCCESS IN
FURTHERING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. DURING COURSE OF
VISIT, CEAUSESCU FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO ITALY' S SECOND PLACE
(AFTER FRG) AMONG GOR' S NON- SOCIALIST TRADING PARTNERS. WE
UNDERSTAND THAT REASON FOR GOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH FIAT (ROME
4413) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FACTORY IN ROMANIA TO RPRODUCE SMALL
AUTOMOBILES (PRODUCTION OF SMALL DACIA 11 ON RENAULT LICENSE
HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED) IS UNHAPPINESS WITH RENAULT TERMS OF
COOPERATION.
MARTENS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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